

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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Reel # 43

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Attached is the following Bulgarian Air Force Information:

- a. OB;
- b. Type of aircraft used;
- c. Air Force Schools;
- d. Air Force Personnel;
- e. Training in Communications;
- f. Airfields; and
- g. Table of Organizations; sketches of aircraft and equipment, etc.

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

Country: Bulgaria

Subject: Air Force Information

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# INFORMATION BULLETIN

## I. Supreme Command

- A. The Minister of National Defense, assisted by three deputy ministers, is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.
- B. The Air Force functions under the Ministry of National Defense. The Air Force General Staff is the highest authority in the Air Force.
- C. Kiril Kirilov is Chief of Air Staff and Commander of the Air Force.

## II. Air Order of Battle

### D. Strength

#### 1. Personnel strength

- a. There are about 1,000 pilots.
- b. There are about 50 regular flight officers as radio telephone and ~~wireless~~ <sup>radiotelegraph</sup> operators; about 20 regular flight noncommissioned officers as radio telephone and ~~wireless~~ <sup>radiotelegraph</sup> operators; and about 120 reserve flight noncommissioned officers as radio telephone and ~~wireless~~ <sup>radiotelegraph</sup> operators.
- c. There are about 200 navigator-bombardiers.
- d. There are about 60 to 100 signal communications officers.
- e. There are about 200 radio technician officers.
- f. There are about 200 radio technician noncommissioned officers.
- g. There are about 600 signal communications noncommissioned officers and enlisted men.

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b. There are about 10,000 to 12,150 noncommissioned officers and enlisted men of various specialties.

1. There are about 2,000 officers and noncommissioned officers ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~leading~~ <sup>leading</sup> ~~in technical capability.~~

## 2. Aircraft

Aircraft Type	Total Number
IL-26 jet aircraft	about 30
MI6-17 " "	about 30
MI6-15 " "	about 180-200
YAK-23 and YAK 17 jet aircraft	about 180-200
IL-2 propeller driven transport	about 15
JU-52 " " "	about 15
IL-2 propeller driven combat transport	about 80
IL-10 " " " "	about 80
PE-2 " " " "	about 60
GALAB " " " "	about 5
YAK-9 propeller driven fighter trainer	about 100-130
YAK-11 " " " "	
LAS-9 " " " "	
VRAPSE propeller driven trainer	about 70-100
CHICHINIGAR " " " "	

## 3. Unit Disposition

1. Air Force General Staff in Sofia
2. Bomber Division in Tolbukhin
  - a. 26th Bomber Regiment in Tolbukhin
  - b. 43rd Bomber Regiment in Tolbukhin
  - c. 46th Bomber Regiment in Tolbukhin
  - d. Airfield Service Squadron in Tolbukhin
  - e. Airfield Service Squadron in Tolbukhin
3. Bomber Division in Gorna Oryahovitsa
 

Three Bomber Regiments in Gorna Oryahovitsa

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4. Aerial Direct Support (or Aerial Assault) Division in Plovdiv
  - a. Aerial Direct Support Regiment in Plovdiv
  - b. Aerial Direct Support Regiment in Krusovo
  - c. " " " " " "
  - d. Airfield Service Squadron in Plovdiv
5. Jet Fighter Division in Bezmer
  - a. Jet Fighter Regiment in Bezmer
  - b. " " " " "
  - c. Jet Fighter Regiment in Tolbukhin
6. Jet Fighter Division in Graf Ignatiev
 

Three Jet Fighter Regiments in Graf Ignatiev
7. Jet Fighter Division in Rayneta
  - a. Jet Fighter Regiment in Rayneta
  - b. " " " " "
  - c. Jet Fighter Regiment in Umuntsovo
8. Jet Division in Kurnaritsa
  - a. Jet Regiment in Kurnaritsa
  - b. " " " "
  - c. Jet Regiment in Gabrovnitsa
9. Independent Transport Regiment in Vrazhdebna
10. Naval Aviation Unit in Varna/Tsaya [or Chayka]
11. Air Force Unit in Ruse
12. Air Force Unit in Stara Zagora
13. Air Force Unit in Karlovo
14. Soviet Air Force Unit in Balchik; IL-28 and MIG-17 aircraft available
- F. School Disposition
  1. Navigator-Bombardier School and Radio Telephone Operators Staff in Boshuritsa until 1954; in Telish since then.
 

*Radio Telephone*
  - a. Radio Telephone and ~~Telephone~~ Operators School

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- b. Navigator-Bombardier School
- c. Tactical Unit School for Radio Telephone and ~~Wireless~~ <sup>Radio</sup> Operators
- d. Tactical Unit School for Radio Telephone and ~~Wireless~~ <sup>Radio</sup> Operators
- e. Tactical Unit School for Telephone Operators
- f. Tactical Unit School for ~~Wireless~~ <sup>Radio</sup> Operators, Paratroopers, Teletype Operators, etc.
- 2. Pilot School in Dolna Mitropoliya
- 3. Engineering Officers School in Lovech
- 4. Technical School for Reserve Noncommissioned Officers in Plovdiv
- 5. Air Gunners School for Reserve Noncommissioned Officers in Graf Ignatiev
- 6. Meteorologists School in Plovdiv
- 9. Disposition of Administrative Units
  - 1. Airfield Service Squadron in Bozhurishka
    - a. Fuel and ammunition depots
    - b. Aircraft plant
    - c. Plant for radio telephone and ~~radio~~ <sup>radio-telegraph</sup> apparatus, etc.
  - 2. Airfield Service Squadron in Sokolovo
    - a. Fuel and ammunition depots
    - b. Air Force materiel depots
  - 3. Airfield Service Squadron in Senokos
    - a. Fuel, ammunition and air force materiel depots
  - 4. Medical Service Institute in Vrazhdebna
  - 5. Air Force Hospitals in Sofia and Varna
  - 6. District Administration in Plovdiv
  - 7. District Administration in Gorna Oryakhovitsa
  - 8. District Administration in Tolbukhin

Notes: During the first part of 1955, <sup>the</sup> Tolbukhin District Administration was transferred from this airfield to an unknown airfield.   
Comments: Since the Navigator-Bombardier and Radio Telephone and ~~Wireless~~ <sup>Radio</sup> Operators School was transferred from Bozhurishka airfield during the end of 1954 and since no other air force unit has been stationed there, it is believed that the transferred Tolbukhin District Administration was placed in the Bozhurishka airfield.

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- b. The purpose of district administrations and sub-units is:
- (1) Airfield construction and maintenance
  - (2) Aircraft and engine repair
  - (3) Servicing air force units and supplying them with:
    - aircraft parts
    - fuel and ammunition
    - clothing
    - food
    - telecommunications facilities
    - vehicles of any type
    - cranes and other machinery

### III. Personnel Procurement-Conscript Service Reserve Calls

#### H. Personnel Procurement

The conscription of air force personnel is accomplished in the same manner as that of the other branches of the Armed Forces, i.e., through the Recruit Selection Military Circuit Councils.

At first, each conscript is given about three months of basic training for armed and unarmed soldiers. ~~After this, depending on~~ air force needs and the conscript's wishes, each recruit is assigned to a specialty and is trained accordingly from 7 to 12 months in the specialty training centers. Each conscript is given theoretical and practical training in his specialty.

Such specialty training centers are located in the Telish, Karlovic, Plodiv, Graf Ignatiev, etc., airfields. A communications (radio-telephone, ~~radiotelegraph~~, teletype, automatic ~~radiotelegraph~~, telephones, etc.) training center is located in the Telish airfield (See Chapter on Schools).

#### I. Conscript Service

Since October 1955, conscript service for ground personnel, such as radio-telephone and ~~radiotelegraph~~ operators, teletype and telephone operators, drivers, etc., is two years; for ~~Flight~~ specialists, such as radio-telephone and ~~radiotelegraph~~ operators, aircraft, radio and instrument technicians, etc., conscript service is three years.

Up to June 1955, the conscript classes of 1953 and 1934 and part of the conscript classes of 1932 and 1935 were in service.

In the fall of 1955, the remaining conscript class of 1935 and part of the 1936 conscript class were called in the service.

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### J. Reserve Calls

Periodically, air force reserve personnel of various conscript classes and specialties are called to duty for advanced training, which usually lasts 75 days. Such reserve calls occurred in the past as follows.

In June 1952 reserve communications specialists of old conscript classes were called to report to various airfields. Some of them reported at Bazuriske airfield. Their training included instruction in new communications and the accuracy practice of units.

In June 1953 reserve communications specialists of old conscript classes (probably the remaining ones) were called to report to various airfields.

### IV. Air Force Organization

- K. The Bulgarian Air Force is organized on the basis of combat divisions and administrative units.
- L. Each division usually includes three regiments and each regiment three squadrons.
- M. Each large administrative unit, or district administration, consists of one airfield construction division, divisional aircraft repair shops, regimental aircraft repair shops, and airfield service squadrons.
- N. See attached chart on Air Force Organization.

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VII. Training of Communications Officers  
and Noncommissioned Officers

T. Georgi Benkovski School: Officers and Noncommissioned Officers  
Specialization School in Telish.

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the

following information concerning this school:

1. It was transferred from ~~Bysharshte~~ airfield to Telish airfield at the end of 1954.

2. It is directly under the Air Force General Staff (Podeleniye 25950), commanded by Lt Colonel Petkov (fnm), and organized like a large unit with a staff, staff offices, two airfield squadrons and two student training squadrons. An analysis of the school organization is as follows:

- Office of the Commander-Soviet Adviser
- Lt Commander's Office-Office of Training
- Lt Commander's and Political Commissar's Office
- Office of the Chief of Staff
- Assistant's Office
- Technical Office
- Office of Navigation and Operations
- Office of Photography
- Office of Radiotechnology
- Office of Armaments
- Office of Special Equipment and Fine Instruments
- Signal Communications Office
- Office of Special Service
- Secret Archives Office
- Flight Safety Office
- Airfield Service Squadron-composed of old conscripts
- Airfield Service Recruit Training Squadron
- Training Squadron for Navigator-Bombardier and Radio Technician Officers
- Training Squadron for Reserve Signal Communications Noncommissioned Officers
- Advanced Training Company for Reserve Signal Communications Noncommissioned Officers

Notes: a. When the school was in "Ozhurshte" it had an aircraft factory and a telecommunications repair shop under its command. These facilities were not moved when the school was transferred to Telish.

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b. [ ] the school organization (information given applies to school in Boshurishte) remained the same after school was transferred to Telish. 25X1

c. An airfield service squadron was attached to school while in Boshurishte. Also, another squadron was formed periodically (each time a new conscript class was called in service) in order to welcome and train the new recruits; this squadron was dissolved at the end of each recruit class training.

Regular

3. Organization, Composition, Destination of Navigator-Bombardier and Radiotechnician Officers Training Squadron.

a. This squadron was responsible for the training of navigator bombardier and radiotechnician officer candidates. An unidentified captain was squadron leader. The squadron included two companies of about 120 navigator-bombardier officer candidates, and one company of about 90 radiotechnician officer candidates (about 30 of them to receive technical training in Radar). See attached chart.

Duration of training is three years (two years up to 1954). The school accepts gymnasium (11 grades) graduates and individuals already in the service by examination. There are about 100 candidates to the school each year; [ ] 25X1

Upon completion of one year of training, the students receive the rank of monocommissioned officer and a monthly salary increase from 12 to 20 leva. Those who complete the course successfully are given the rank of regular second lieutenant navigator-bombardier and are assigned to combat units. The unsuccessful students are given the rank of M/sergeant and must attend the school for another year before they graduate as second lieutenants.

b. Training stages: [ ] there are three training stages for navigator-bombardier and radiotechnician officer candidates. During the summer periods, all students are assigned to various field units for exercises. The students are given written examinations every three months. 25X1

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c. Navigator-bombardier trainees of the first two companies (first company commanded by a captain, second by a first lieutenant) received training in the following courses:

- Map drawing and reading
- Bombardment-machine gunning
- Operation of radiotelephone and radiotelegraph sets
- Combat technique
- " " "
- Aircraft technique
- Aerodynamics
- Electrology
- Signal communications
- Parachute use and maintenance
- Foreign languages (Russian, French, Bulgarian)
- Mathematics
- Photography
- Topography
- Meteorology
- Sighting mechanisms
- Army combat exercises

d. The teaching staff was composed of:

- A teacher of Russian, a Bulgarian colonel
- A teacher (woman) of French
- A teacher of Bulgarian, 1st colonel
- Four school staff officers and 16 school staff and company officers <sup>taught</sup> the remaining courses for navigator-bombardier and radiotechnician officer candidates.
- Several other officers, <sup>as</sup> technical specialists in radio-technology, instruments, aerial photography, parachutes and navigation-bombardment, were used as teachers.

Officer candidates used the following equipment:

- Five to six JU-52 aircraft
- Maps and instruments (sighting, bombing, machine gunning, and measuring instruments, compasses, etc.)
- Radiotelephone and radiotelegraph sets: Soviet made RCB-3, RCB-5, RAZ-5, RCU-4MU, RCU-4M, and RBM; German made FYG-17; and Bulgarian made Letishten-Priemnik (airfield receiver).
- Radar sets of an unknown type (see radar diagram) and three vehicles carrying Radiovokatori <sup>the</sup> Radiolokator <sup>1</sup> search radar sets. The radar sets were located in an ~~isolated~~ <sup>isolated</sup> area near the ammunition depot. <sup>The area</sup> ~~1~~ was restricted to all except to trainers and trainees.

e. Daily training program:

- 0530 Reveille
- to 0550 Gymnastics
- 0550 to 0610 Personal clean up
- 0620 to 0720 Breakfast
- 0720 to 0750 Newspaper reading
- 0750 to 0800 Barracks clean up
- 0810 School line formation - Report
- 0810 to 1200 Classes--each class lasts for 50 minutes, there is a 10 minute break between classes.
- 1200 to 1300 Lunch
- 1300 to 1400 Rest period
- 1410 School line formation
- 1410 to 1800 Classes
- 1800 to 1900 Dinner
- 1900 to 2100 Compulsory study period
- 2100 to 2150 Magazines reading, recreation
- 2200 Taps

The School Overseer, who is an officer, and the M/Sergeant, who is the best cadet, are present during the compulsory study period for maintaining order.

f. In school the cadets are given the following articles of clothing:

- One service coat, closed collar
- One pair of service trousers
- One green belt
- High black shoes
- Service cap
- White dress coat, open collar
- A pair of blue trousers with a stripe on the outside seam
- Blue shirt
- Black tie
- White service cap
- White gloves
- Good quality black shoes
- Overcoat
- Two pairs of underwear

- In October the cadets return their summer uniforms and receive two winter uniforms (service and dress).

The winter dress uniform includes:

- Coat, blue collar
- Shirt
- Black tie
- White belt
- Red service cap
- White gloves

The winter service uniform includes:

- Coat, closed collar
- A pair of trousers
- Two pieces of cloth to be used as a scarf

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g. Discipline - Recreation: School discipline and recreation are the same as in the Pilot School. At an appointed hour every Sunday, relatives are permitted to visit the cadets in school. The cadets live in large rooms of unknown dimensions; their beds are placed in rows. They eat in special restaurants; the food is rather good ~~as~~ (grade No. 4).

h. Student turnover: Up to 1953 when the school was still in Boshurishte, it accepted about 100 students and graduated 90 navigator-bombardier officers per year. Since 1953 about 60 navigator-bombardier officers and 30 radiotechnician officers were graduated per year.

[REDACTED] the 1952 class was the only one to accept about 200 students. [REDACTED] 25X1

1. A 10 percent of the graduating navigator-bombardier and radiotechnician officers and officers of other specialties received long advanced training abroad. While training abroad these officers, who are party members, received, in addition to their salary, a per diem compensation for foreign duty and an allowance from the Soviet Government. Upon their return to Bulgaria, they are assigned to leading positions.

4. Organization, Composition, Destination of Reserve Noncommissioned Trainee Squadron in Tishish.

a. This squadron is responsible for the training of reserve noncommissioned officer candidates and ~~enlisted men~~ <sup>recruits</sup> as: radiotelephone radiotelegraph and teletype operators, radar and automatic radiotelegraph transmitter operators, telephone and telephone lines operators, radio-technicians, and parachute repairmen. The squadron includes two companies for the training of officer candidates according to their specialties.

b. See attached chart on school organization.

Duration of training was 12 months. In 1952 this was changed to seven months because of service needs. The students are given written examinations every three months. Upon completion the reserve noncommissioned officer candidates are graduated as reserve sergeants and are granted their specialty by <sup>an</sup> order of the day; subsequently, they are assigned to combat units. About 650 men attend this school each year.

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Trainees are selected by the company commanders of the recruit training squadrons and are not given entrance examinations. They are junior gymnasium graduates and most of them are DSNM members. Enlisted men enter this school following the completion of their training in the recruit training squadrons. Duration of training varies according to specialty. Each trainee is given personal equipment, writing materials and other educational aids. Enlisted men wear the same uniform as all other air force personnel. Upon completion of three months training, trainees receive the rank of private first class or sergeant cadet according to their progress.

The squadron's daily program <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ as follows:

- 0600 Reveille
- 0600 to 0620 Gymnastics
- 0620 to 0640 Personal clean up
- 0640 to 0730 Breakfast
- 0730 to 0740 Barracks clean up
- 0740 to 0840 Newspaper reading
- 0800 to 0810 School line formation
- 0810 to 1200 Classes
- 1200 to 1300 Lunch
- 1300 to 1400 Rest period
- 1400 to 1410 School line formation
- 1410 to 1800 Classes, a 10 minute break after each class
- 1800 to 1900 Dinner
- 1900 to 2000 Educational reading, recreation
- 2000 to 2200 Compulsory study period; the School Overseer, who is an officer, and the M/Sergeant, who is the best cadet, are present during this period.

Captain Dragan Draganof, assisted by a political commissar (first lieutenant), <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ commanded the squadron.

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#### d. Squadron analysis

(1) Company C for radiotelephone and radiotelegraph operators.

About 120 enlisted men from the recruit [training] squadrons enter this company each year. The company has four platoons of 30 men each. Each platoon is commanded by a 2nd lieutenant. Duration of training is 12 months. Upon completion the trainees are graduated as noncommissioned sergeant cadets or sergeants according ~~according~~ to their school progress. 25X1

Trainees are instructed in subjects and the use of equipment as follows:

- Morse key
- Electrotechnology
- Radiotechnology
- Internal combustion engines
- Telephony
- Political orientation
- Physical training
- Combat exercises (for enlisted men)
- Combat tactics
- Military transmitters and receivers
- Regulations

Trainees begin their Morse key instruction on the second day.

This instruction is divided in two stages:

Stage 1: The students receive four hours of training every day. On the first day they are given the background of Morse code, key, transmission, etc. For the next nine days they are trained in receiving code letters and numbers; they learn six letters and numbers per day. They do not learn the letters in alphabet order. The last day of this 10-day period is spent in learning Morse code by ear. For the

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following three months, the students are trained in receiving eight code transmissions per week; they practice about 12 minutes (4' on receiving letters, 4' on receiving numbers and 4' on receiving numbers and letters). At the end of this three-month period the trainees are tested; they must be able to receive 40 letters per minute. Those who fail are censured by the party members and are prevented from receiving any passes.

Station 2: During this stage emphasis is placed on Morse code transmission. The trainees devote two hours each day on code transmission. At the end of ~~Station 2~~ <sup>Stage</sup> 2, and also the end of their seven-month training, all students are examined by a committee headed by the Chief of Communications of the Air Force General Staff. In order to pass, the trainees must be able to transmit 80 letters or numbers per minute and receive 90 letters or numbers per minute. The successful trainees graduate as radiotelephone and radiotelegraph operators and receive the rank of sergeant. The unsuccessful students are assigned to the airfield service squadrons.

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Flying personnel

are expected to be well built, have slightest 70 percent and up, and height of 1.58-1.95m.

(2) Company for telephone, teletype and radiotelegraph operators. Duration of training is nine months. During July 1952 to January 1953, this training was shortened to four months. There were about 30 radiotelegraph operators trainees; the teletype operators platoon had 30 men and the telephone operators platoon about 90 men.

The trainees were trained in the use of the following equipment:

- teletype machines
- automatic radiotelegraph sets (together with tapes)
- telephone centers and magnetic telephones

The trainees were instructed in the following subjects:

- Radiology
- Electrology
- Political orientation
- Physical training

(3) Company for radiotechnicians, radar operators and parachute technicians. Trainees receive theoretical and practical training as follows:

- Radiotechnicians: basic instruction in radiotechnology, inspection and repair of radiotelephone and radiotelegraph sets, etc.
- Radar operators and technicians: trained by specialist officers at location of radar equipment (Telish airfield). This area is restricted to all other officers and enlisted men.
- Parachute repairmen: theoretical and practical training in parachute maintenance.

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## VIII. Airfields

in the Bulgarian  
Air Force the following airfields:

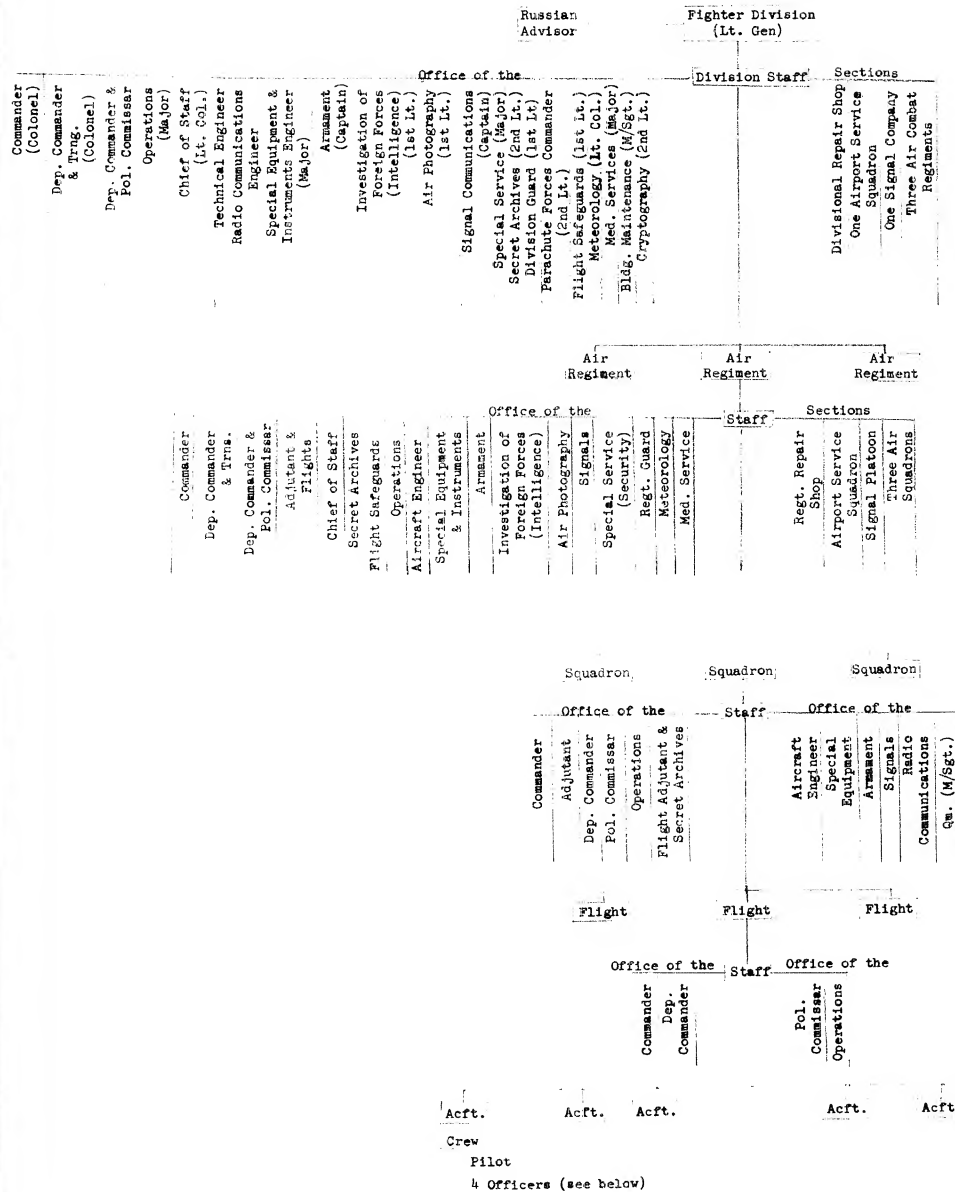
Airfield	Unit Designation	Runway	Auxiliary Airfield	Emergency Landing
Balchik	3rd Bomber Div until April 1955; available aircraft TU-2, IL-28, OOIOB, CHIKLOP (See Chart No. 28). Under Soviet Air Force since April 1955.	2,400x60m Concrete	Sokolovo 3rd Div Rgmt stationed here all summer for training. Ammunition depots available.	Senokos Landing ground, service squadron, ammunition depots etc. available.
Tolbukhin	A Fighter Div until April 1955; transferred to Bezmer (See Chart No. 29). 3rd Bomber Div and a Fighter Rgmt since April 1955.	2,600x80m Concrete	Same as above	
Gorna Oryakhovitsa	A Bomber Div since 1947; PE-2 aircraft available.			
Bezmer	A Fighter Div (Podaleniya 25720) Available aircraft: YAK-9, YAK-11, YAK-17, and YAK-23	Concrete		
Ravnets	A Fighter Div or Rgmt. Available aircraft: YAK-23 and MIG-15			
Usunovo	A Fighter Div or Rgmt. Available aircraft: YAK-23 and MIG-15	Concrete	Malevo Used as target range by Plovdiv units.	
Plovdiv	Direct Aerial Support Div since 1950. Available aircraft: IL-2 and IL-10	Concrete		
Graf Ignatievo		Concrete		
Alexandru Vozdukh	A Fighter Div or Rgmt. Available aircraft: YAK-23, MIG-15 and MIG-17 (See chart).	Concrete		

<u>Airfield</u>	<u>Unit Designation</u>	<u>Runway</u>	<u>Auxiliary Airfield</u>	<u>Emergency Landing</u>
Gabrovnitsa	A Fighter Div or Regt. Available aircraft: YAK-23, MIG-15 and MIG-17	Concrete		
Vrashdebna	Transport Regt Available aircraft: LI-2 and SOBa (See chart).	Concrete		
Ruse		Concrete		
Cotse Delchev	A Fighter Regt since 1954	Concrete		
Telish	Navigator-bombardier training center and summer camp of Dolna Mitropoliya School since 1954. Available training aircraft: LAZ-9, CHZ- CHINIGER and VRAPTSE (See chart).	No runway		
Kamnets	Under Dolna Mitropo- liya School Available aircraft: YAK-23 and YAK-17	2,800x3,000 by 100m		
<i>Stalin</i> Varna (auxiliary)	Service battalion	No runway		
<i>SARAKOVA</i> Sarakovna (auxiliary)	Service battalion	No runway		
Stara Zagora	LAZ-9 trainers avail- able in 1953; [ ] it is used by jets since then.	Concrete		
Yambol	Aerial Dir Support Div (available aircraft: LAZ-9) until 1954. During the beginning of 1955 this division was dissolved. Major- ity of personnel trans- ferred to 3rd Div of Balchik and aircraft detached to various other units such as Karlovo, Stara Zagora, Vrashdebna, and D. Mitropoliya. A service battalion is stationed there presently; no aircraft available. Fighters are able to land in summer. Airfield in good condition.	No runway		

Airfield	Unit Designation	Runway	Auxiliary Airfield	Remarks
Aksakovo/ Varna, <i>Belin</i>	Civil airfield			
Kazaniuk	Direct Support Div until 1948. Used by a service battalion since then.			
Bozhurishte	Nav-bombardier/radio- telephone and radio- telegraph operators school stationed until 1954; transferred to Telish in 1955. Aircraft repair shop, radiotelecommunications repair shop, and an un- identified unit (probably general fuel depot and service battalion) are available.			
Lovash	An aircraft factory operates here.	Natural surface runway available.		
Dolina Mitropoliya	Under the Pilot School No runway Available aircraft: LA2-9, CHICHINIGER, and VRAPTSE			

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Diagram of the Organization of Bulgarian  
Air Force Divisions and Regional Commands. No. 2



- Note: (1) The Direct Support Division and the Bomber Division have the same offices and sections as the division, the only exception being that the Bomber Division also has a bomb maintenance squad.
- (2) The Air Regiments have the same offices and sections as the regiments, except for the Bomber Regiments which have only two aircraft squadrons.
- (3) Each Bomber Squadron and Direct Support Squadron has three flights, besides the offices.
- (4) The Bomber Flight has 3 aircraft, and the Direct Support Flight has 4 aircraft.
- (5) Each crew is composed of airmen in accordance with the type and purpose, as follows:
- Bomber
    - Pilot
    - Navigator-Bombardier
    - Radioman
    - Gunner
    - 1-2 technical engineer officers
    - 1 special equipment officer
    - 1 radiotechnician officer
    - 1 armament officer
  - Direct Support Aircraft
    - Pilot
    - Navigator-Bombardier
    - Radioman
    - Gunner
    - 4 officers; technical engineer, special equipment, radio-technician, & armament





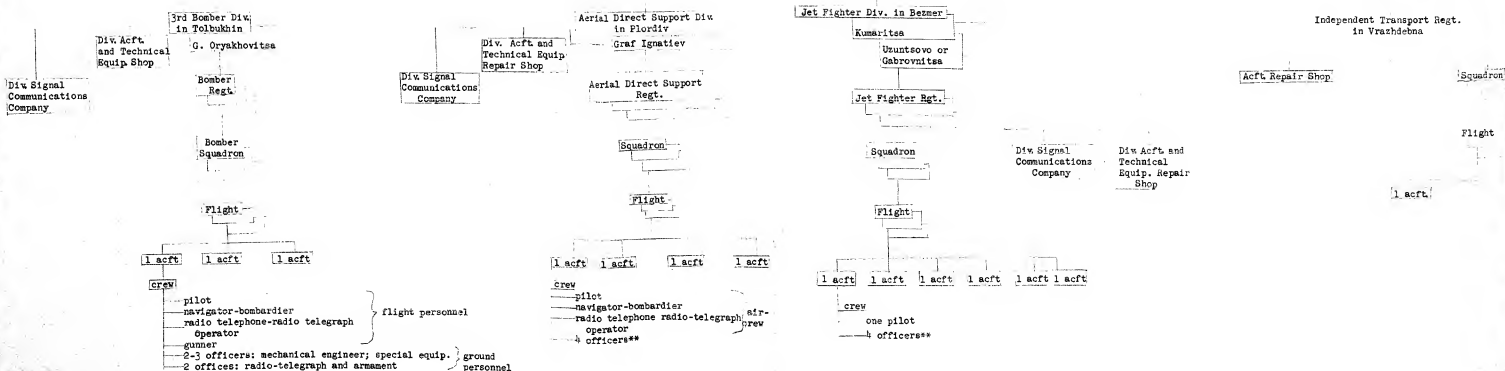
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SECRET

Ministry of Defense  
Minister  
Deputy Minister of Defense  
Z. Zakhariev  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Naval General Staff  
Army General Staff  
Air General Staff. Kiril Kirilov-p 25000  
Soviet Adviser  
Soviet Adviser  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
Director of Training,  
General  
Complaints Bureau  
Colonel-p 25000 A  
Chief of Staff,  
Colonel  
Soviet  
Adviser  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
Political Commissar,  
Colonel  
Soviet  
Adviser

General Aircraft Machine Shop  
Colonel  
Fighter Reg. Inspection Branch  
Colonel  
Bomber  
Direct Support  
General Machine Shop for  
Aircraft Radio Sets  
Major  
General Repair Shop for  
Special Instruments,  
and Machinery. Lt. Col.  
General Mechanical  
Ground and Aircraft  
Supply Lt. Col.  
Chief of Navigator-Bombardier  
Operations Lt. Col.  
Chief of Foreign Forces Search  
Intelligence Directorate  
Aerial Photography  
Service, Captain



SECRET

**SECRET**Ministry of Defense  
MinisterDeputy Minister of Defense  
Z. Sabharwal

Assistant Deputy Minister

Naval General Staff

Army General Staff

Air General Staff, Kiril Kirilov-p 25000

Soviet Adviser

Soviet Adviser

Deputy Chief of Staff  
Director of Training,  
GeneralDeputy Chief of Staff  
Political Commissar,  
Colonel

Soviet Adviser

Complaints Bureau  
Colonel-p 25000 AChief of Staff,  
ColonelSoviet  
AdviserGeneral Mechanical  
Ground and Aircraft  
Supply Lt. Col.Chief of Navigator-Bombardier  
Operations Lt. Col.Chief of Foreign Forces Search  
Intelligence DirectorateAerial Photography  
Service, CaptainChief of Flight  
Safety Service  
MajorChief of Communications,  
MajorAir General Staff  
Directorate BattalionVarious Admin. Services  
Unknown to Source.**Notes:**

- The air force remained independent of army control up until 1953. In 1953, the War Council decided on the operational subordination of air divisions to field armies according to area in time of war (for example, the Plovdiv air divisions to operate under the Southern Army.)
  - The War Council's membership includes the Minister and Deputy Minister of National Defense; Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs of Staff; and certain Chiefs of Branches.
  - Each command up to the divisional level has a Soviet adviser.
- \* Airfield service squadrons are stationed in each airfield. Service units are available in other maintained airfields and airfield materiel depots.  
\*\* Mechanical engineer; special equipment; radio-telegraph, armament.

in Bezem

ites

Buntsovo or

Sabrovitza

Lighter Reg.

Squadron

Light

pilot

officers\*\*

Independent Transport Regt.  
in Vrahdeba

Aircraft Repair Shop

Squadron

Flight

1 acft

1 acft

**Schools**Regular Pilot Officers School  
in DolhamitropoliyaRegular Navigator Officers  
in TelishRegular Communications Non-Com  
Officers SchoolRegular Officers and NCO School for  
Technical Specialties in LovechReserve Communications NCO School  
in Roshurishite

Meteorologists

Photographers

Paratroopers

Radar

Reserve Aircraft Technicians NCO School  
in Plovdiv

Armors

Electrical Technicians

Regular Administrative NCO School in Karlovo

Drivers

**District Administrations  
in Plovdiv**

Tolbukhin

Gorna Oryakhovitsa

Airfield Construction  
Division in Plovdiv

Tolbukhin

Gorna Oryakhovitsa

Airfield Service Squadrons\*

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Legend

- Bomber Division	1.	First Flight Path	Width: 19km	Safety Altitude: <u>Allegible</u>	
- Bomber Regiment	2.	Second "	"	"	1,200m
- Direct Support Division	3.	Third "	"	"	1,000m
- Direct Support Regiment	4.	Fourth "	"	"	1,500m
- Fighter Division	5.	Fifth "	"	"	1,000m
- Fighter Regiment	6.	Sixth "	"	"	1,200m
- Fighter Unit	7.	Seventh "	"	"	undetermined
- Transport Regiment	8.	Eighth "	"	"	1,500m
- Seaplane Unit	9.	Ninth "	"	"	800m
- Large Schools	10.	Tenth "	"	"	1,200m
- Small Schools	11.	Eleventh "	"	"	2,600m
- School Annex					
- District Administration	1.	Restricted Flight Zone	Sofia	Radius: 10,000m	Altitude: 4,000m
- Airfield Construction and Repair Division	2.	"	"	Dimitrovo	12,000m
- Divisional Aircraft and Machinery Repair Shop	3.	"	"	Bukhovo	15,000m
- Regimental Aircraft and Engine Repair Shop	4.	"	"	Plovdiv	8,000m
- Airforce Materiel Depots	5.	"	"	Mantan	10,000m
	6.	"	"	Kurdzhali	13,000m
	7.	"	"	Dimitrovgrad	15,000m
	8.	"	"	Stara Zagora	9,000m
	9.	"	"	Kazanluk	7,000m
	10.	"	"	Burgas	10,000m
	11.	"	"	Stalin	10,000m
	12.	"	"	Reka Devnya	15,000m
	13.	"	"	Razgrad	15,000m
	14.	"	"	Ruse	15,000m
	15.	"	"	"to Black Sea along coast 30kilom. from land	
	16.	"	"	"to Rumania Width: 15,000m	
	17.	"	"	"to Yugoslavia " 20,000m	
	18.	"	"	"to Greece-Turkey" 25,000m	

Remarks:

Scale: 1:1,000,000

1. Soviet Air Force base for MIG-17 and IL-28 aircraft since April 1955.
2. Bozhurishte schools transferred to an unknown airfield in 1954.
3. Airfield Service Squadrons are stationed in all airfields in Bulgaria as well as at the air force materiel depots.



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Representative Diagram of the School in Telis for Regular

Navigator-Bombardier and Radiotechnician

Officers and Reserve Radiotechnician

Noncommissioned Officers

Commander Russian Advisor  
 Dep. Commander Pol. Commissar  
 Chief of Staff

Staff Offices  
 Secret Archives  
 Special Service  
 Technical Section  
 Navigation Section  
 Photography Section  
 Radio  
 Armament  
 Special Equipment  
 Communications  
 Reserve Noncommissioned Communications  
 Officer Trainee Company

Aircraft  
 Factory

Airbase Service  
 Squadron

Recruit  
 Training Squadron

Regular Officer  
 Candidate Squadron

Reserve Noncommissioned  
 Candidate Squadron

Fuel Dump

Navigator-Bombardier  
 Candidate Company

Radiotechnician Company

Armaments Depot

Company

Radiotechnician  
 Platoon

Clothing Warehouse

Navigator-Bombardier  
 Platoon

Underground Munitions  
 Dumps

Radiotechnician Candidate  
 Company

Automatic Tele-  
 phonic Operators  
 Platoon

Radiotechnician Platoon

Teletype  
 Telephone

Vehicle Shop

Radar

Radiotechnician  
 Parachute Company

Radiotechnician  
 Platoon

Radar

Note: The school has about 6 JU-52 and F.V.  
 aircraft for the training of the students.

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Legend

1. Position of aircraft ready for take-off.

When the pilot is warming up, etc. he asks for permission to take-off by using the following phrases:

Liza	Aircraft	415
	from	

Ground station

Brakes secure - precision instruments ok - cabin closed - area free.

Give me permission to take-off for practice in first zone.

Permit to 415 to first zone given (in case of wind, data are given, ex. right side 15 degrees).

While the plane is warming up and the pilot is sending his report, an air policeman stands on top of T (3) and holds up a red flag (take-off prohibited).

As soon as the flight director gives permission for the take-off the policeman takes down the red flag and raises a white flag. (The policeman has a radio to listen to the instructions of the flight director).

2. P.E.P. Headquarters of the flight commander

3. T-shape made of white cloth placed on small posts; dimensions:

9 x 12 m.

4. Position of the air policeman who has a radio, red and white flag.

5. Frame made of white cloth placed on small posts; dimensions:

2 x 10 m.

6. Triangle made of white cloth placed on small posts; dimensions:

6 x 6 x 6 m.

7. White flags along the length of the runway. The flags and frames are placed in a straight line to help landing aircraft either to the runway or to a ground strip to the right of the flags.

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8. Parking area of ambulances, trucks containing radio sets, etc. Here also are a doctor, a mechanic, a technical engineer, a flight security engineer.

9. Aircraft which has landed exactly at the height of the T has made an excellent landing.

9a. Aircraft which has landed outside and to the left of the runway has failed in its landing; the pilot is punished.

9b. Aircraft which has landed at this point has made a good landing.

9c. Aircraft which has landed at about this point has made an average landing.

9d. Aircraft which has landed near the end of the runway is considered to have had an unsuccessful landing.

10. Natural runway on which landings are practised.

Notes: The airfield circle from 12-28 aircraft is clockwise and is at a height of 500 meters.

Otherwise it is the same as that of the T<sup>u</sup>-2.

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Legend

1. Fuel supply building
2. Pump building
3. Dry fuel dump
4. Football field
5. Communications equipment warehouse
6. Warehouse (no other details known)
7. Radio repair shop, etc.
8. Students room
9. Classroom
10. Toilets
11. Pig-sty
12. Clothing warehouse
13. Warehouse (no other details known)
14. Armaments warehouse
15. Garage equipment building
16. Battalion garage
17. Three-story building. The first and second floors contain soldiers rooms. The third floor has a classroom. On the first floor there is a messhall.
18. Convalescent hospital
19. Well
20. Buildings for the families of adjutants



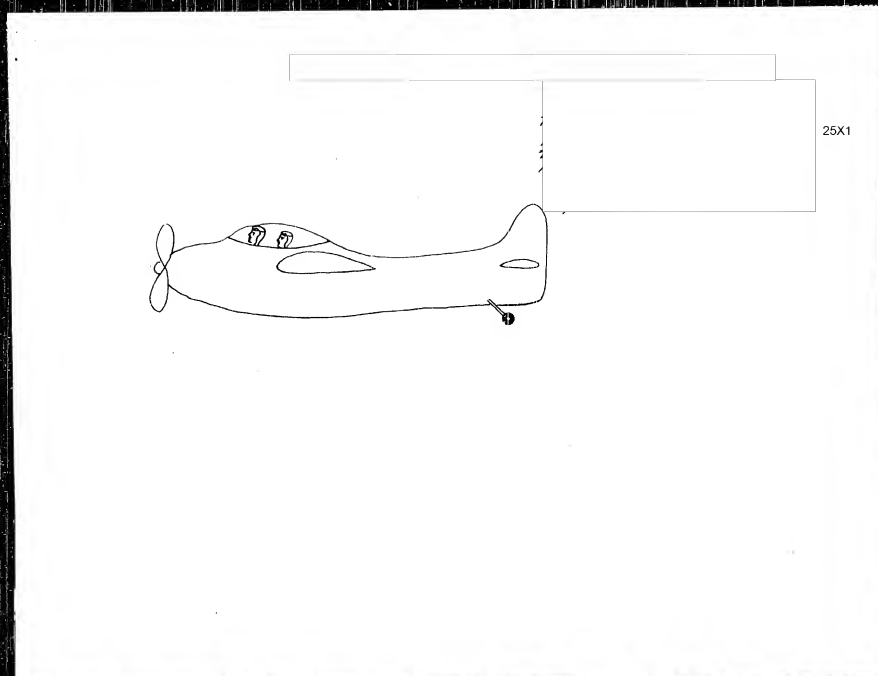
21. Fruit trees
22. Jail
23. Jail entry checkpoint
24. School headquarters -  (two story building)
25. Three-story building. First floor: motion picture room. Second and third floors: classrooms.
26. Pavilion, only with roof.
27. Aircraft hanger
28. Hanger equipment warehouse
29. Two-story building: classrooms
30. P.E.P. 12 m. tall
31. Parachutists building. Two-story
32. Soldiers room
33. Aircraft hanger
34. Aircraft repair shop
35. Repair shop equipment warehouse
36. A-H buildings; details unknown

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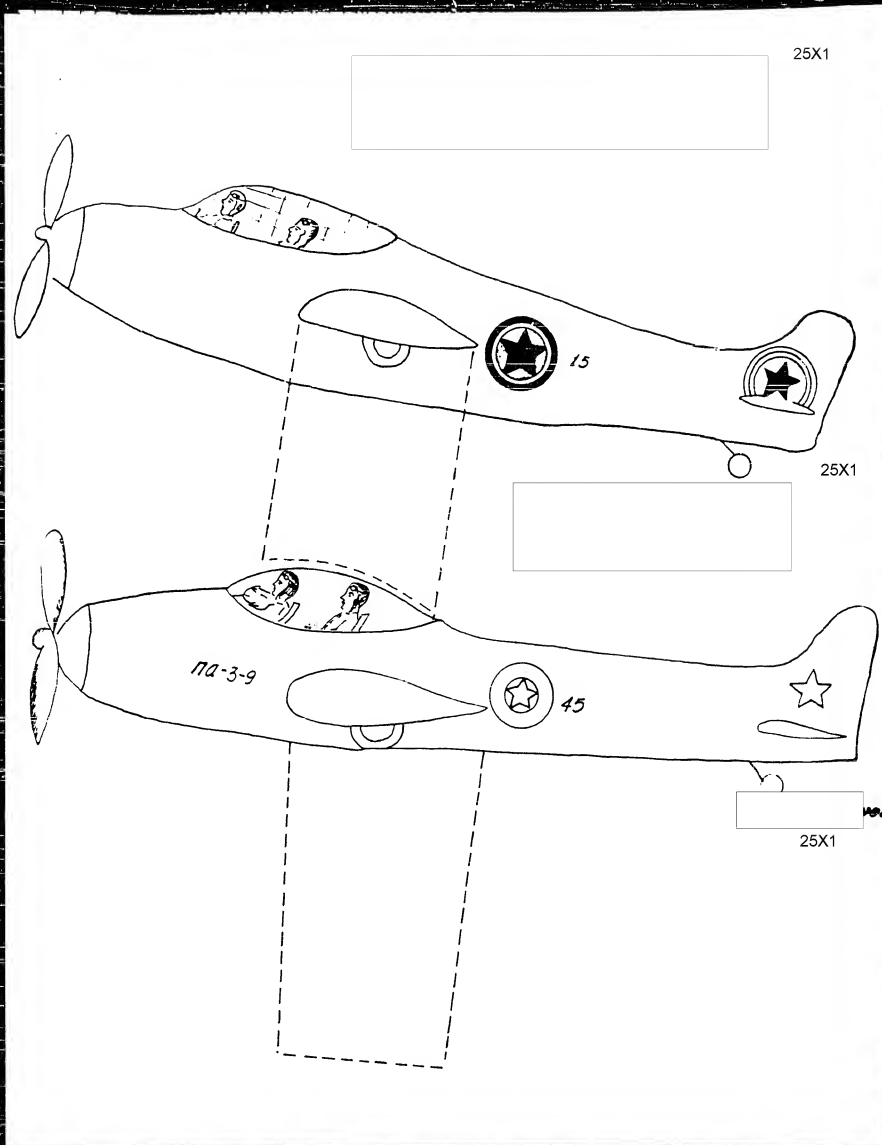
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MIG-17 No. 25

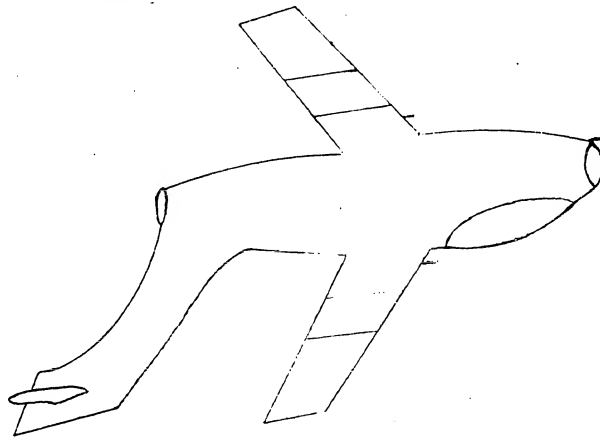
Pilot Cover for Instrument Flying No. 34

- circle circumference
- outside semicircumference  
and spokes made of wire

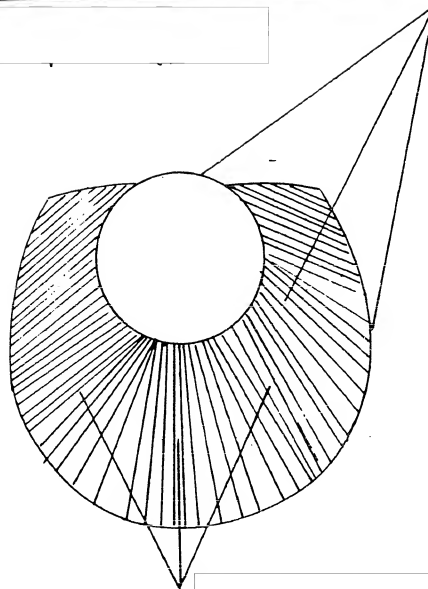
- The whole surface is covered  
by a cloth usually of white  
color

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POOR ORIGINAL



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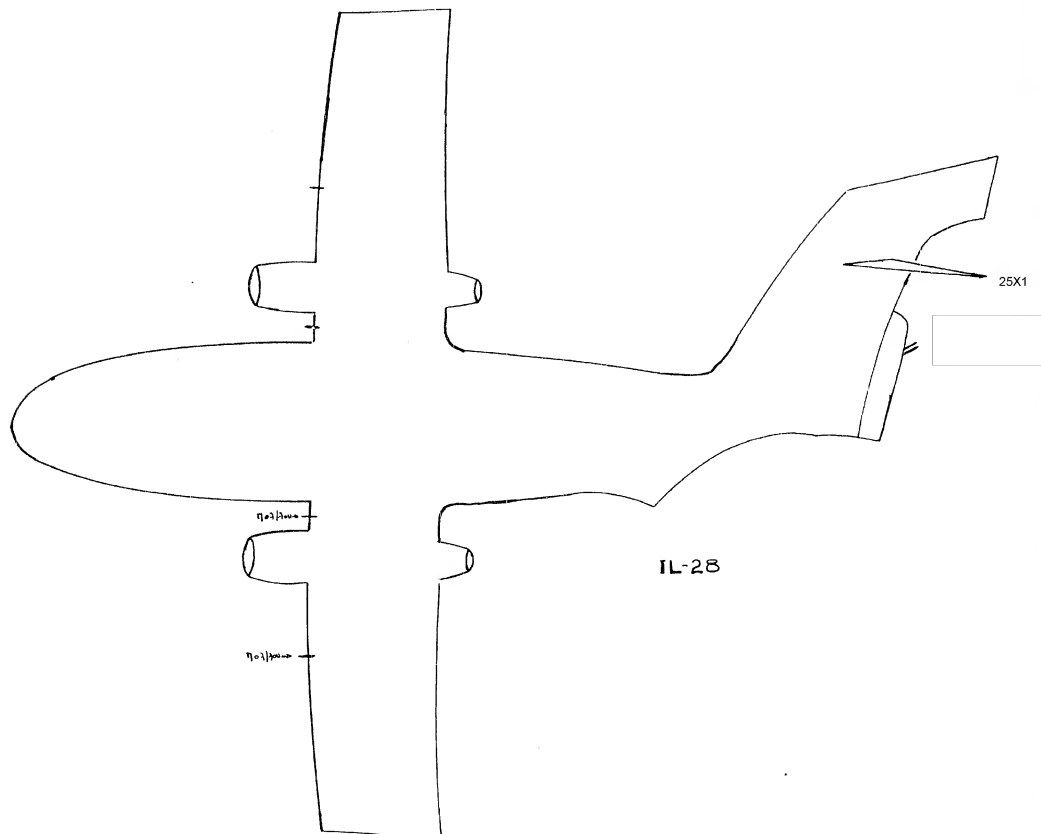


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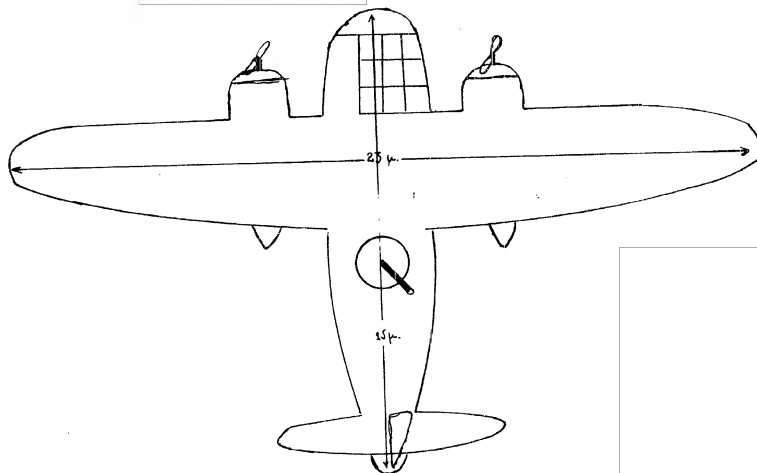
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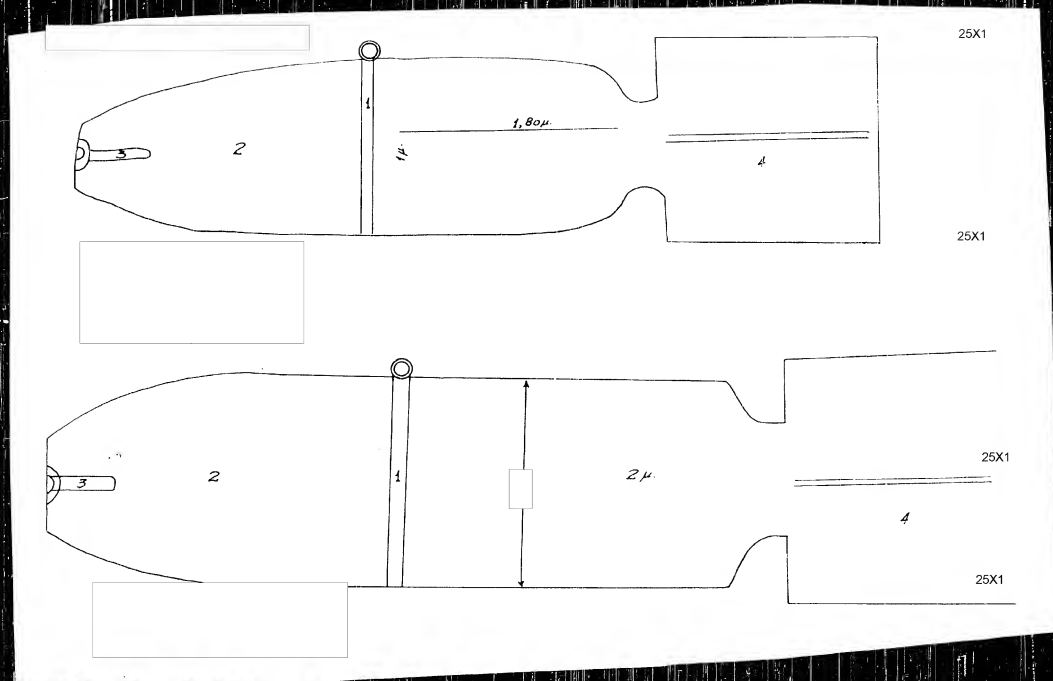
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Live Bombs No. 15

1. Suspension ring
2. Main body with charge
3. Detonator
4. Fins  
Length: 1.80 m.  
Diameter: 1m.  
Weight: 250 kg.

1. Suspension ring
2. Main body with charge
3. Detonator
4. Fins  
Length: 2m.  
Diameter: 1.20m.  
Weight: 500 kg.

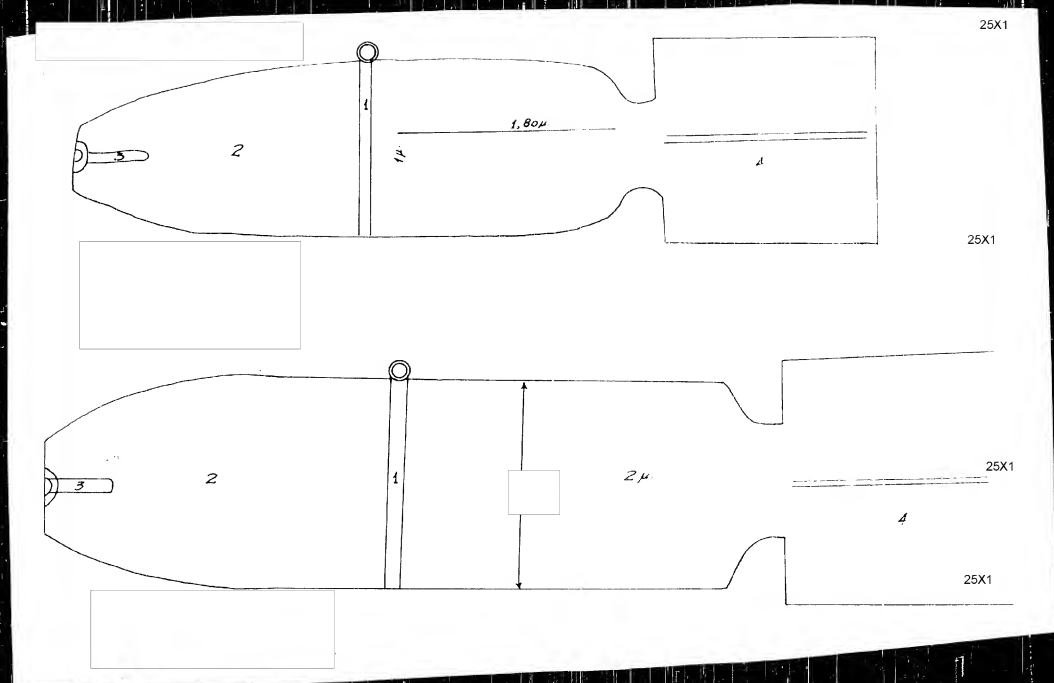




Live Bombs No. 15

1. Suspension ring
2. Main body with charge
3. Detonator
4. Fins  
Length: 1.80 m.  
Diameter: 1m.  
Weight: 250 kg.

1. Suspension ring
2. Main body with charge
3. Detonator
4. Fins  
Length: 2m.  
Diameter: 1.20m.  
Weight: 500 kg.

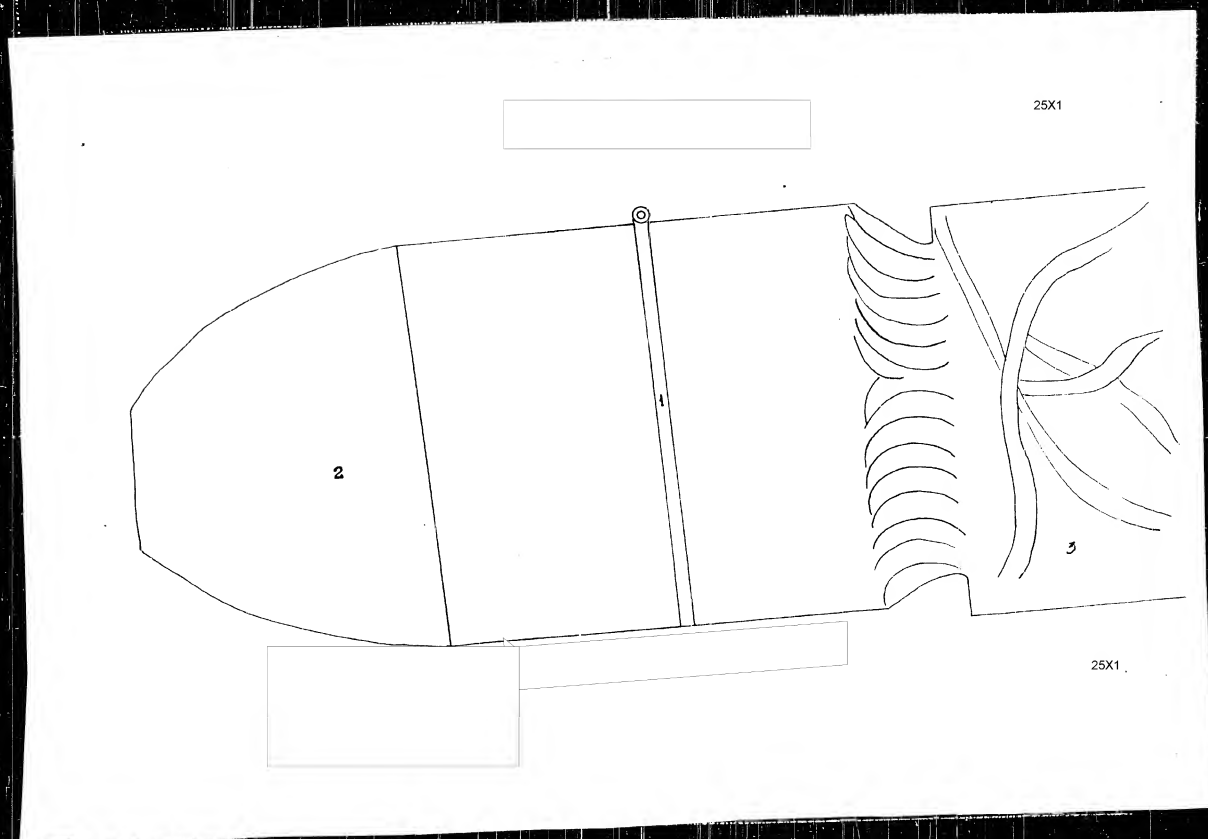


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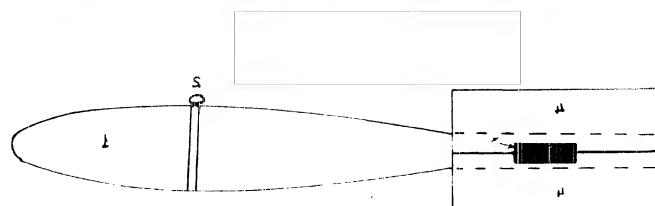


Practice Bomb No. 17

C.A.B. Model  
Soviet Make  
Weight: 50 kg

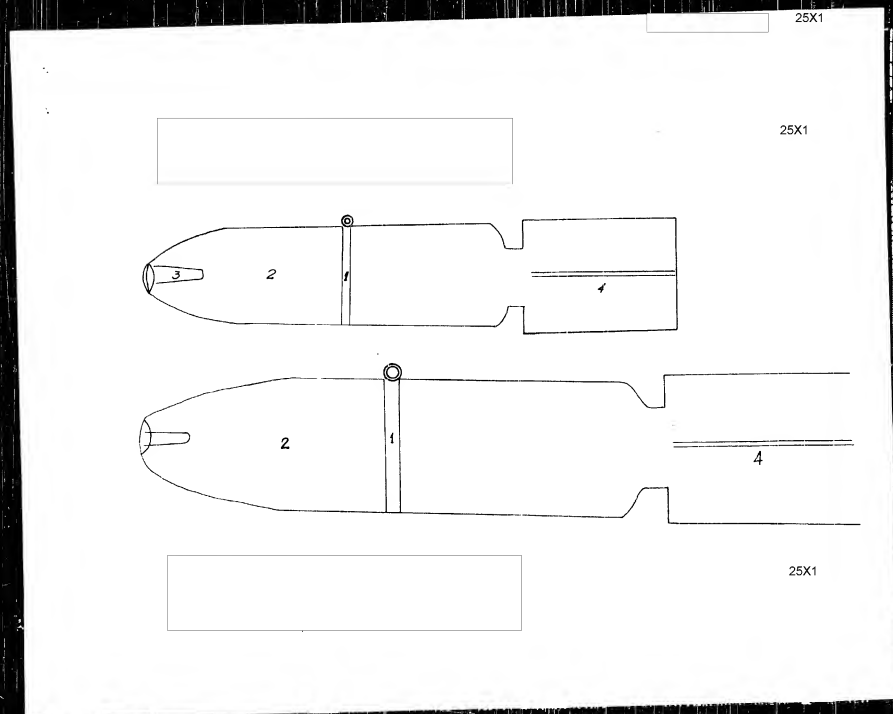
- Note:
1. Cement body without detonator
  2. Belt with bomb suspension jack
  3. Smoke producing mechanism for determining the position of the fall of the bomb. Immediately after the impact, this mechanism is smashed and smoke is released.
  4. Fins used in straightening the bomb's course.

4



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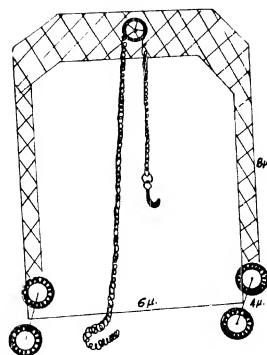




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POOR ORIGINAL

bomb release point  
-time count  
target / entry in clouds -90° left turn  
time 6'

For the estimation of time to target range from regional airbase: flight over airbase; begin keeping time count; keep on regular course; make regular turn; and timely release of bombs over target.

Results: Average  
An automatic mechanism for determining position  
is not available in Tolbukhin.

airbase

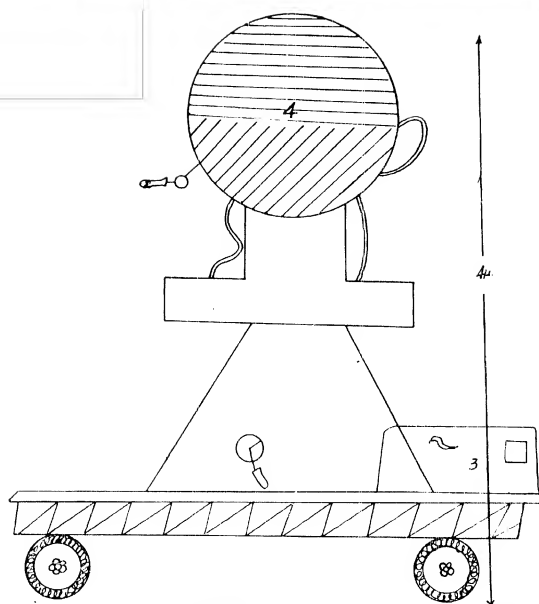
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Sighting Mechanism No. 12

-support seat while used  
on the ground

observation lens - 0

-altitude adjustment knob

- course position knob

-wind adjustment knob

Off On

Off On

- lens

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